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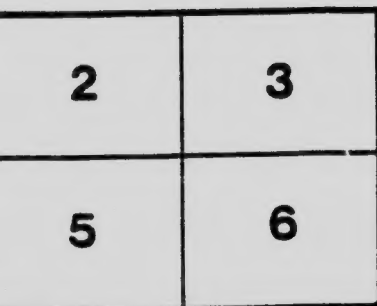
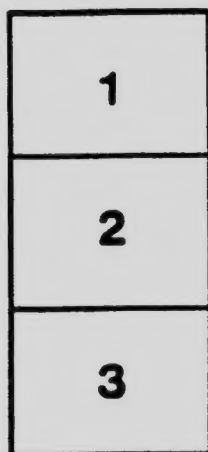
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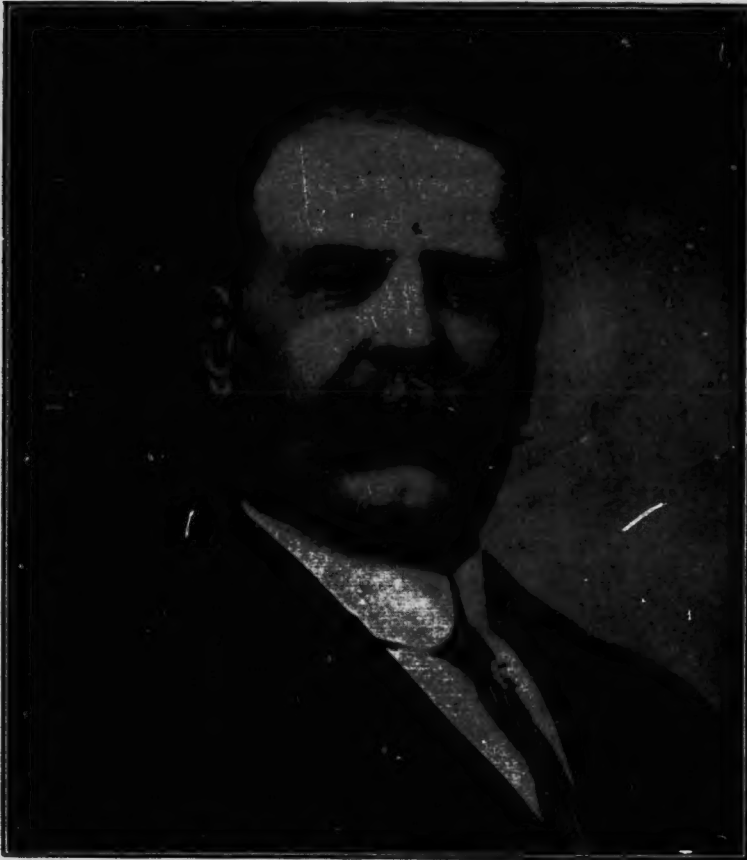
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280m
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THE MAYORALTY

243 (a)



To the Citizens of Montreal

I respectfully ask your kind perusal
of the words on the following pages.

L. A. LAPOINTE

MY RECORD

A man of any modesty naturally feels some hesitation in speaking of his own work, preferring to leave that to others, but I have been so misrepresented and maligned in some of the newspapers that I believe you will think it not unreasonable if I say a word about my sixteen years service.

To the very best of my ability the public interest on all occasions has been safeguarded, conscientiously, persistently, and vigorously.

1st. As Chairman of the Finance Committee I opposed the policy of the "23," fought the schemes before the Council and brought them to public notice until the "Cannon Commission," created as a result of our fight, came to the City's relief. I had the satisfaction of being honoured by that commission on my Finance Committee work while others were condemned.

That strenuous opposition made enemies who naturally oppose me now.

While the "23" were entrenched and playing havoc with the city's interests, the only thing the minority could do was to oppose them. We were not always successful, but we fought the fight that culminated in the Cannon Commission.

2nd. Believing the water rates of the city to be too high, especially as there was a large profit in the Water Department, I began a fight for reduction. It was a strenuous fight too, but I succeeded in cutting down the rates by two sweeping reductions until the water rates to-day are only 50 per cent of what they were when I began the crusade.

3rd. I earned severe criticism for standing staunchly for a Royal Commission to investigate the scandalous administration of 1908-9, certain members having endeavoured to change my attitude by threats of opposition the next time I came before the people.

4th. I have opposed the Tramways, not because I think we should persecute them, but because I did not like the appearance of secret negotiations. The question should, of course, be treated fairly, but I have insisted that all negotiations for any renewal, or any extension of any franchise, must be done openly above board, and must have public approval by the only means possible, viz., a referendum.

Many of the enemies who are fighting me so warmly are my antagonists because I opposed the policy affecting expropriations. In our Civic debt extravagant expropriations are represented by many million dollars.

For sixteen years I have fought continually for what I deemed to be the best interests of the city, and I invariably opposed all schemes and measures of doubtful merit.

In these matters I am in favor of a sane business policy as far as practicable on the same basis as a bank or well regulated industrial business is conducted.

I have stood for a just distribution of public works throughout the city as against sectional preferences.

When a fight was put up in Council a couple of years ago to utilize Fletchers Field for a library site, and at an earlier date when it was proposed in Council that land on the same open space should be sold for building lots, I made a stand against them and the schemes were voted down, thus ensuring the inviolability of Mount Royal Park.

I might mention other events but I have more belief in the gratitude of the people than to think they forget them.

If you have any doubts as to the truth of my statements, I hope you will enquire for yourself rather than allow yourself to be misled by interested newspapers. It has been said the voters of Montreal are apathetic. I hope you are so fully impressed with the seriousness of the city's plight that you will not forget election day this year.

If you do me the honour to give me your vote it will be my steadfast ambition to earn your respect so that at the end of my term you may feel you fulfilled a public duty in casting your vote. I cannot say more and I should not say less.

Yours sincerely,

L. A. D. G. G. G.



